

ROOP HOUSE

224 EAST MAIN STREET

Probably of very early origin (land records reveal that some structure was built on this lot about the time of the Revolution), this house had assumed its present day character by the mid-nineteenth century; a gable-roofed two and a half story 3-bay-by-2-bay box with a rear ell opening, by a two-story porch, to the southeast. The entrance door, the eastern ground floor bay, has 8 panels and a narrow transom beneath a modestly bracketed simple cornice. The other five, regularly-placed principal facade bays are 2/2 double-hung sash windows with wooden sills, the simplest of enframements, and flanking black louvered shutters. Number 224 is important in Westminster's streetscape as it serves (with the larger scale no. 226 East Main Street) to illustrate how successfully the typical Pennsylvania small-town house, normally built in brick, can be rendered in frame and clapboard as well.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Roop House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

224 East Main Street (MD 32)

6

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Carroll

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCES☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Virginia E. Robrecht

Telephone #: 848-4184

STREET & NUMBER

230 East Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21157

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Carroll County Office Building

Liber #: 309

Folio #: 42

STREET & NUMBER

Center Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Westminster Bicentennial

DATE

October, 1964

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Carroll County Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Similar to its immediate eastern neighbor, but of smaller scale, is number 224 East Main Street (Maryland Route 32) Westminster. In fact, while 226 East Main could conceivably appear anywhere along the East Coast, number 224 is a wooden relative of the usually brick "central Pennsylvania small-town house" that occasionally appears in Westminster.

Possibly of very early origin, the house had assumed its present character by the Mid-nineteenth century - a gable roofed 2 1/2 story, 3 bay by 2 bay cube with a rear ell, opening to the southeast. The entrance door, the eastern ground floor bay, has eight panels and a narrow transom beneath a modestly bracketed simple cornice. The other five regularly placed north facade bays are 2/2 double-hung sash windows, with white wooden sills, the simplest of enframements, and flanking black louvered shutters. All this sits between a low field-stone foundation and simply corniced eaves. A corbelled brick chimney, flush with the west wall, pierces the black tin roof. Otherwise, there are 2 vertically aligned 2/2 windows (1 per floor) in the southern portion of the west wall, and, in the ell, 2 regularly placed 6/6 windows. The east front has 2/2 windows in the Main Street section which match those on the west side; a 6-light window serves the attic. The once open 2-tiered porch, which ran the length of the ell, has been enclosed (in glass to the north, in screen to the south and in clapboard on the second floor) and is irregularly dotted with irregularly styled windows. A large corbelled brick chimney rests about 20 feet from the southern end of the ell, at the peak of the black tin covered gable roof. A very large, stepped, corbell-capped exterior chimney fills the western half of its ell's south front. To its east on the second floor is a 6/6 window, and a modern glass and aluminum storm door, which is directly approached by a single flight of red wooden steps. "About 15 years ago," according to a present tenant a small shed roofed shed was added to this end.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1840

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Number 224 East Main Street is significant as a reminder of the often slow steps taken by the pioneers, steps leading away for their earliest primitive shelters. It is a truism that the settlers would, as quickly as possible, exchange their log houses for ones of more substantialness; this building reminds us that often this exchange would result in a building not too different in plan and size. This small size may be understandable if we recall that the place has always been of secondary importance - in earliest times the land was sold as part of a larger deal (Frederick County Land Records Book BD, page 185, also WR 32/22, JS 8/118, dated, respectively, 1775, 1809, and 1819). When John Fisher (see 222, 226 East Main Street) took title, deed JS 8/118, January 2, 1819, the land was probably unimproved. Fisher, a prominent local landholder, may have built the existing dwelling as rental property before his death in 1858. For the next 70 years the house passed, by way of the Orphans' Court, through the Roop family. A.V.Z. Quin~~n~~ took title in 1935 (163/487); her daughter, the present owner, purchased the lot from the estate on August 5, 1959, deed 309/42. Thus, even to the present day, number 224 has always been a small piece of a large transaction (in 309/42, 5 lots changed hands).

It is also a "small piece" of a larger architectural style - that we have called the Pennsylvania small-town house, the "essentially decent building" (see 270-272 East Main Street). Number 224 shows that while normally of brick, the style can be successfully rendered in wood as well.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Being the easterly half of lot 42 of the original town of Westminster as shown on a plat recorded among the Land Records of Frederick County in Book L, page 472.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Christopher Weeks, Consultant

October, 1976

ORGANIZATION

Westminster Historical Sites Survey

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

c/o City Hall - Public Works Department

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

1. STATE		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY	
COUNTY		2. NAME	224 E. Main St.
TOWN <i>Westminster</i>	VICINITY	DATE OR PERIOD	
STREET NO.		STYLE	
ORIGINAL OWNER		ARCHITECT	
ORIGINAL USE		BUILDER	
PRESENT OWNER		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
PRESENT USE			
WALL CONSTRUCTION			
NO. OF STORIES			
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION		OPEN TO PUBLIC	
<p><i>Ea. home of James M. Shelman - 1st. Burgess - Carr. Ea. 19th. Cent. 1964 - Roberts</i></p>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE		Endangered	Interior
			Exterior
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER	
<p><i>West. Bicent Program 10/4/64</i></p>		<p><i>Riviera 10/70 MHT</i></p>	
		DATE OF RECORD	

63⁰/₀



CARR-133

153

CL

6370

p. 98

224 E. Main St

(133)

660/0



CARR 133
224 E. Main St.
Westminster
N. facade
10/76 C. Wecker

A-8



CARR 133

224 E. Main St. Westside

SE facade

9/76 Cwech



CARR ~~133~~ ~~340~~

(23)

221 ~~244~~ E. Main St

Westminster

N. facade

C. ?

10/76 Cwech

Xxy

224 E. Main
nbl c. 1900